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Viewing cable 08NEWDELHI126, LET'S FIX IRRITANTS THAT PLAGUE THIS PARTNERSHIP,

If you are new to these pages, please read an introduction on the [structure of a cable](#) as well as how to [discuss them](#) with others. See also the [FAQs](#)

Understanding cables

Every cable message consists of three parts:

- The top box shows each cable's unique reference number, when and by whom it originally was sent, and what its initial classification was.
- The middle box contains the header information that is associated with the cable. It includes information about the receiver(s) as well as a general subject.
- The bottom box presents the body of the cable. The opening can contain a more specific subject, references to other cables ([browse by origin](#) to find them) or additional comment. This is followed by the main contents of the cable: a summary, a collection of specific topics and a comment section.

To understand the justification used for the classification of each cable, please use this [WikiSource](#) article as reference.

Discussing cables

If you find meaningful or important information in a cable, please link directly to its unique reference number. Linking to a specific paragraph in the body of a cable is also possible by copying the appropriate link (to be found at the paragraph symbol). Please mark messages for social networking services like Twitter with the hash tags **#cablegate** and a hash containing the reference ID e.g. **#08NEWDELHI126**.

Reference ID	Created	Released	Classification	Origin
08NEWDELHI126	2008-01-14 14:29	2011-08-30 01:44	SECRET	Embassy New Delhi

Appears in these articles:

<http://www.thehindu.com/news/the-india-cables/article1556669.ece>

VZCZCXRO1441
OO RUEHBI RUEHCI
DE RUEHNE #0126/01 0141429
ZNY SSSSS ZZH
O 141429Z JAN 08
FM AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 0019
INFO RUEHCG/AMCONSUL CHENNAI 2261
RUEHCI/AMCONSUL KOLKATA 1577
RUEHBI/AMCONSUL MUMBAI 1369
RUEAIIA/CIA WASHDC
RUEKJCS/JOINT STAFF WASHDC
RHEHNSC/NSC WASHDC
RUEKJCS/SECDEF WASHDC

S E C R E T SECTION 01 OF 04 NEW DELHI 000126

SIPDIS

SIPDIS

E.O. 12958: DECL: 01/08/2018
TAGS: [PREL](#) [AMGT](#) [KREC](#) [OFDP](#) [ODIP](#) [IN](#)
SUBJECT: LET'S FIX IRRITANTS THAT PLAGUE THIS PARTNERSHIP,
AMBASSADOR TELLS MENON

Classified By: Ambassador David Mulford for Reasons 1.4 (B and D)

[1](#)1. (S) Summary: The Ambassador told Foreign Secretary Menon January 11 that a range of bilateral problems has started to make people question Irritants Sour the Relationship
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[1](#)2. (C) In a January 11 conversation with Foreign Secretary Shivshankar Menon, the Ambassador observed that despite ambitious visions and inter-
-- The stark difference between the broad strategic vision and the harsh on-the-ground realities that trouble the USG and private sector player
-- The insistence by India on x-raying U.S. diplomatic pouches, which complicates the timely delivery of visa foils to the Chennai consulate, a
-- Inordinate and unexplained visa delays for officers assigned to the U.S. mission in India, which impose personal inconvenience and costs on
-- The linkage established by India between the state tax issue in New York over which the Federal Government has no control and the refusal by
-- Delay in approval of two simple amendments to permit the expansion of the Fulbright program, which prevents a 50 percent increase in the prc
-- The assertion that NGOs can only meet each other under the government-to-government Global Issues Forum (GIF) and crude attempts to enforce

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-- The unresponsiveness on U.S. efforts to address agriculture market access issues;
-- The lack of cooperation in solving issues related to American schools in Mumbai and Chennai that limit the necessary growth of these schools

[1](#)3. (C) The Ambassador added that the recent claim by Agriculture Minister Sharad Pawar that the problems in South Asia have their roots in Was
Several Factors Lie Behind the Annoyances
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[1](#)4. (C) Menon agreed that the two sides should discuss the list of issues, but he said that he saw several reasons behind the accumulation of g

[1](#)5. (C) The Ambassador asserted that in his four years in India, he has never sensed such a high level of frustration. Menon noted that the Ful
We will retaliate on TIP Downgrade
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[1](#)6. (C) Menon remarked that if the U.S. did lower India to Tier III status, the Indian government would retaliate.

U.S. Suspects Hostility of Intelligence Agencies
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[1](#)7. (S) The Ambassador surmised that many problems might arise from the Intelligence Bureau, such as the recent revocation from the Indian Amer
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and asked the Ambassador to provide a list of instances so that he could pinpoint where the problem originated.

Can't the U.S. Do More On the Tax Issue?
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[1](#)8. (C) Some of India's positions make little sense, the Ambassador complained, such as tying the New York tax issue to the need for the U.S. t
Friends Fix Irritants
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[1](#)9. (C) The Ambassador said that if the U.S. and India wanted to fulfill the vision of friendship and trust, that these problems should not ari

MEA: "We Are Like This Only"
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[1](#)10. (C) Subsequent to the Ambassador,s meeting, MEA J/S (AMS) Gaitri Kumar called PolCouns to present her view on the bilateral issues raised

Comment: Bureaucracy Still Fighting the Cold War

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¶11. (S) In the absence of sustained political support from the top of the Indian government for relations with the USG, the Indian bureaucracy

¶12. (S) Since the U.S. and India are partners in building an important strategic relationship, and the U.S. is the country that is trying to k

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resolve them immediately. This is not happening. Instead, these problems are multiplying, festering and being deepened, and attitudes here ar

MULFORD